



NAVAJO DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR SELF RELIANCE



For Immediate Release
February 26, 2015

CONTACT:
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Shiprock Department for Self Reliance Continues to Serve From Temporary Location

SHIPROCK, New Mex. — The Department for Self Reliance (DSR) Shiprock office staff have been displaced for more than three months and will continue to be displaced until an adequate office facility is secured.

The DSR Shiprock office was located within the Ayani Nez Building, formerly the Fair Child Building, until it was closed by order of the Navajo Nation Office of Environmental Health due to the substantial health and safety risks to the DSR's Customers, employees and visitors.

While DSR searches for an office facility, the Shiprock Chapter and the community of Shiprock is allowing the DSR to utilize a small building next to the Teen Life Center located off of Highway 64, immediately west of the Shiprock Chapter House. This location is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. until further notice. Please be informed that only limited services can be provided at this temporary location. Customers are welcome to submit their applications and documents at this location.

"We thank the Shiprock Chapter and the community for assisting us in securing a temporary location and accommodating our special circumstances. We are also very thankful to the Shiprock Chapter staff for volunteering to set-up a temporary location for us," stated Roxanne Gorman, DSR Department Manager III.

The DSR has been trying to locate an adequate facility within the Shiprock community. Unfortunately, an office facility which meets the needs of the DSR does not exist within Shiprock. As a result, the DSR is currently searching for an office facility in the border towns adjacent to Shiprock.

A proposed lease is pending approval by the Central Consolidated School Board. The board decided to not make any decisions about the lease until the next board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 17th, 2015 at the Newcomb Middle School.

"Central Consolidated Schools has the space needed by the DSR, and they have a very nice facility available for lease. The Kirtland location has its advantages. We have many customers who travel to Shiprock from Farmington, Bloomfield and Aztec. If approved, those customers and the Shiprock customers would be meeting in the middle. The Navajo Nation Transit stops within the potential office location, as well as, the City of Farmington's Red Apple Transit. Access to public transportation helps address the transportation barrier that many of our Customers struggle with," stated Gorman.

If the School Board does not approve the lease, the DSR will have no choice but to search beyond Kirtland and into Farmington or Bloomfield, New Mexico.

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The schedule of services for the temporary Shiprock DSR office for the month of March 2015 is as follows:

Shiprock, NM (Limited services, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Located next to the Teen Life Center located off of Highway 64, immediately west of the Shiprock Chapter House.)

- Mondays: Intakes (appointments and walk-ins).
- Tuesdays: Appointments and limited walk-ins, depending on the number of Caseworkers.
- Wednesdays: No intake interviews.
- Thursdays: Appointments and limited walk-ins, depending on the number of Caseworkers.
- Fridays: Intakes (appointments and walk-ins).

Shiprock DSR Itinerate sites will continue to operate as scheduled:

NMHSD Income Support – Farmington (located at 101 W. Animas in Farmington, New Mexico.)

- March 3rd, Tuesday from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm
- March 17th, Tuesday from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Aneth Chapter House (located off of HWY 162 in Aneth, Utah.)

- March 5th, Thursday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- March 19th, Thursday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Please be advised that the schedule is subject to change and can change without notice.

To contact the Shiprock DSR staff please call the Gallup, New Mex. DSR office toll free at 1 (866) 704-6940 or (505) 722-8415. For more information please call the DSR Support Services Office at 1 (928) 810-8553 or toll free at 1 (866) 347-2403.

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